

**Department of Public Works and Transportation
Montgomery County, Maryland**

DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES



SORRT staff team assisting Mr. Stearling Finnel in setting up a model recycling program for The Ivymount School in Rockville.

***MONTHLY REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2001***



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OVERVIEW

Tonnage at a Glance

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2002 began July 1, 2001.)

FACILITY	Sep FY 02	FY 02 Total	Sep FY 01	Sep FY 00
Materials Recovery Facility ⁽¹⁾	6,290 tons	18,922 tons	6,438 tons	5,328 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility ⁽⁴⁾	18,525 tons	60,803 tons	10,663 tons	12,078 tons
American Ash Recycling ⁽²⁾	N/A	N/A	2,768 tons	3,164 tons
Resource Recovery Facility ⁽³⁾	51,259 tons	163,015 tons	40,092 tons	39,730 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	3,058 tons	10,189 tons	3,226 tons	4,526 tons

⁽¹⁾MRF tons reported are outgoing.

⁽²⁾Tons shipped out to ash recycling facility during the indicated period. All tons so shipped are recycled.

⁽³⁾RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here. For FY02 these tonnages are preliminary, with adjustments made in the December and June monthly reports.

⁽⁴⁾This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled at Clean Rock or other locations.

Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation – During September, program staff:

- Handled routine level of billing questions.
- Coordinated internal preparations for upcoming budget season/rate modeling work.
- Continued work on Variable Rate Study: collected additional data from other jurisdictions, cost analysis, drafted materials, held Task Force Meeting.
- Conducted four field inspections for properties of uncertain service/billing category.
- Presented field inspection notebooks for condominium properties to inspectors.
- Updated premise address notebooks for 600 new properties.
- Updated and reported service household counts for the month.
- Continued research and corrections to billing database.
- Continued development of new hauler billing system including: tested printing of invoices using August data, met with eMontgomery to develop and revise forms/procedures, met with Finance to ensure completeness of accounting

functions, presented the system to accountants at another large hauler, got helpful suggestions and very positive feedback.

- Completed field audits of 6-month hauler reports and continued related database additions; and gathered additional data for FY01 recycling accounting.
- Received complement of 230 non-residential appeals for FY02; processed 17.

CITIZEN COMMITTEES

Facilities Implementation Group – The next scheduled FIG meeting will be at the Gothic Barn on November 13, 2001.

Sugarloaf Citizens Association – The County worked with SCA & FIG to quantify the remaining obligations under the Master Plan and the SCA Agreement. The County Executive forwarded final report to T&E Committee.

SCA and the County met at 7:30 p.m. on September 25, 2001 at the Gothic Barn.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – The SWAC meeting that was scheduled for September 11, 2001, was canceled due the tragic events that occurred. The next scheduled SWAC meeting is set for October 2, 2001 in the EOB.

COLLECTIONS

Refuse – Refuse collections went as scheduled for the month September. Monday, September 3, was the Labor Day Holiday and all collections were made one day late without any confusion to the public.

Recycling – Mixed paper tonnages for the residential program during the past 2 four-week periods are as follows:

8/6/01 through 8/31/01	9.10 lbs. per household
9/3/01 through 9/28/01	10.08 lbs. per household

Contractor Performance – During the month of September, DSWS received 565 complaints; this represents a 34.3% decrease from September 2000, which had 860 complaints. Only six complaints were not promptly resolved by the contractors in September; all were corrected by the County and charges (fines) were assessed to the companies.

Enforcement Actions – Twelve citations were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Six citations	Not having a valid collectors tag attached	\$3,000
Two citations	Not having a valid collectors license	\$1,250

Two citations	Not having a suitable tight fitting cover	\$1,000
Two citations	Collecting solid waste before 7 a.m.	\$1,000

Seven NOV's were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Four NOV's	A vehicle found to be unsafe
Two NOV's	Failing to maintain an approved container
One NOV	Not having a tight fitting cover

Customer Service – DSWS received 7,571 incoming calls and 272 follow up calls were made for quality check. There were 1,003 blue bins delivered and 146 e-mail requests handled by the Customer Service staff.

WASTE MINIMIZATION

Latex Paint Management – The County continues to promote home-management of latex paint.

Bicycle Recycling – Pedals for Progress picked up 132 bicycles (almost 2 tons) in September. These bikes will be repaired and find new homes in El Salvador and West Africa.

Computer Recycling – Approximately 24 tons of computers were recycled in September under the computer recycling program.

Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities – The Gazette's "Green Man" column continues monthly, and also appears in digest form at greenman.askDEP.com. In addition, Eco Minutes from the Green Man continue to air weekdays on WARW 94.7 FM., with a new Eco Minute presented every week. Tips can also be found at www.classicrock947.com.

The Composting Demonstration site at the Audubon Naturalist Society was spruced up during the month and several new models of compost bins have been installed. The site will be featured during Audubon's popular Fall Bird Seed Sale with a series of demonstrations and workshops.

HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – HHW events were held in September at the Transfer Station and the Upcounty Government Services Center in Germantown; 743 patrons and 170 patrons at the two events, respectively.

Small Quantity Generator (Ecowise) Program – One Ecowise event was held in September; seven companies attended.

AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEM Tracking of RRF Operations – The Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) indicated that all three units were operating continuously until 5 a.m. on September 25 when unit 1 was brought offline. Conversation with the RRF chief engineer indicated that the reason was low pit. Additionally, some outage work will be done on the unit because the turbine will be brought offline by the end of September. Units 2 and 3 were operating until the end of the month. No equipment malfunctions in September.

In the first week of September, the set of nine CEM CD-ROM's was updated to include CEM data up to August 31, 2001. Copies of the CD-ROM's were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to DSWS staff, SWAC and FIG.

The County and Covanta completed reviewing the draft Title V Air Permit for the RRF and communicated comments to NEA. NEA is currently incorporating the changes into a single document to be reviewed by the County and Covanta. The final document is expected to be sent to MDE by the second week of October.

In September, Covanta reported an unauthorized access to the CEM web site. The computer was sent to Covanta's main office in Fairfield, NJ to install safety features. The equipment is expected to be back at the facility during the second week of October.

Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology – The Leachate Thermal Treatment System (LTTS) operated for 28 days, evaporating on average, 7.8 gallons of leachate per minute. A meeting was held with Bentech on September 10 to discuss contractual issues. Bentech stated that the firm is vigorously pursuing negotiations with Federal Agencies for the purchase of power, enabling the firm to implement an electricity-generating project.

Yard Trim Composting Facility: Consent Agreement – Dewatering and cleaning of the storm water management ponds is continuing.

FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee – The new laboratory contracted by ENSR for conducting the Non-Air Media Monitoring Program submitted a document containing analytical methods and expected detection limits which was submitted to the Committee. DSWS also reviewed the document and agrees with the proposed program.

A second farm in Lucketts, Virginia, located sufficiently farther from road traffic was visited (Control Site) and agreement was obtained to sample hay in October.

Contractual Work – Efforts are continuing to amend the SCS Contract to include emergency services in the event of landfill gas migration at the Gude landfill and Beantown Dump.

ENSR's contract has been extended until September 15, 2002 enabling the firm to complete the draft reports on RRF Multimedia Studies. A draft report on the Epidemiological Study is expected in October 2001.

RECYCLING

Public Outreach – Five focus groups were conducted with residents of single-family homes. The purpose was to understand the perceptions and barriers to recycling. Outreach items and activities were also discussed to determine better ways to inform the public. The educational piece on mixed paper recycling will be distributed with the Washington Post on October 21. A mailing is being prepared to be sent to all haulers and collectors to remind them of the regulations, and to reiterate the enforcement actions the County can take.

MCPS recycling rate: 17%

Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction – The business recycling handbook is being revised and updated. Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs for businesses. Staff continued to monitor incoming loads of waste at the Transfer Station for large quantities of recyclable materials. Information is being gathered to educate the haulers and the businesses generating the materials. A model recycling program was set up at Lakeforest Mall. The business recycling video was in the editing phase.

Multi-Family Recycling- Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs and work with property managers and residents to provide assistance and support. Staff continued to assist properties that were not in compliance with the County's regulation. Notices of violation are being issued for non-compliance with Executive Regulation 109-92. Properties are being encouraged to set up mixed paper recycling programs.

Mixed Paper Recycling- Staff continued monitoring the amounts of mixed paper being recycled in each area, to troubleshoot and provide additional education to those low performance areas. Recruiting employees for the canvass initiative is underway. An educational item in the form of a large paper bag printed with the do's and don'ts of mixed paper recycling has been finalized and readied for printing. This item will be distributed to all single-family households on October 21 through the Washington Post.

Volunteer Activities - For the month of September, 37 Volunteers contributed 250 hours to the following activities:

- Household Hazardous Waste collections at the Shady Grove Transfer Station and Upcounty Government Services Center in Germantown.
- Special project at the Bullis School.
- Fair and Festival outreach at several events including the Gaithersburg 63rd Annual Labor Day Parade, Poolesville Day, Germantown Oktoberfest, Gaithersburg Olde

Towne Day, Latin American Heritage Day and the Burtonsville 11th Annual Celebration Day.

PILOT PROGRAMS

Mixed Paper Pilot – DSWs staff distributed 750 wheeled carts (toters) to a route in Potomac. The program started Wednesday, September 19, 2001, and will be monitored closely. Early indications (3 weeks) show a 53% increase of recycled paper based on weights collected for the 37 weeks prior to 9/19/01.

Tubgrinding Pilot – Tubgrinding of screened reject material is ongoing.

Ash Recycling Pilot – The ash recycling pilot program ended in June. NEA received proposals for a long-term ash recycling program on September 19, 2001. The proposals are being reviewed.

FACILITY ACTIVITIES

Resource Recovery Facility – The Facility operation consisted of three units for the entire month except for the last six days of the month when unit 1 was taken offline to manage the waste pit inventory. Changes to the dispatching procedures that were made by CSX for the trash train have been demonstrated as workable. Monitoring will continue to determine the effects of the new procedures under various operating conditions.

There were no minimum or maximum utility generation alerts during the month.

There were no forecasted Code Red days.

There were no reportable air or water quality environmental excursions during the month.

The following environmental events occurred:

- Completed the draft Title V permit review. Comments were submitted in early October.
- Submitted report to MDE for an oil spill on September 20.
- Coordinated with MDE on the NPDES permit application. Received MDE confirmation that current permit remains valid until MDE finishes their review under new procedures.
- Completed quarterly ash pH testing. Results were good (6.2, 6.0 and 6.1).
- Submitted Potable Water Monthly Operating Report for August to MDE.
- County CD-ROM's emission data were updated.

Twenty-five 6th graders toured the facility on September 18.

SCS Engineers/Dvirka and Bartilucci continue interviewing personnel and reviewing data in performing the Operations Review and Assessment of the Facility.

Materials Recovery Facility - Approximately 1,569 tons of commingled material were shipped out after processing, and approximately 4,721 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility.

The contractor continued with the construction of the building expansion. The building expansion should be substantially complete in October. The contractor must install a louver, some translucent panels, finish installation of the interior lights and address a few other items to reach substantial completion.

Month	FY02	FY01	FY02	FY01
	Commingled	Commingled	Paper	Paper
July	1,639.49 tons	1,521.46 tons	4,545.10 tons	4,067.67 tons
August	1,591.50 tons	1,591.78 tons	4,928.21 tons	4,895.03 tons
September	1,569.14 tons	1,446.94 tons	4,720.77 tons	4,990.71 tons
Total	4,800.13 tons	4,560.18 tons	14,194.08 tons	13,953.41 tons

Oaks Landfill - Documentation for the Phase I closure construction is complete except for one item.

DEP and the Office of the County Attorney continue to prepare additions to the Post-Closure Care Plan for the 30-Year post-closure period at the Oaks Landfill in response to comments received from the MDE on the draft plan submitted by DSWS.

SCS Engineers filled in for DEP while their equipment was in the shop and continued weekly monitoring of certain gas wells where methane had been detected. Methane is present in one of the wells but concentrations have been declining over the past few weeks.

DSWS reviewed recommendations submitted by SCS Engineers for subdividing the leachate storage lagoons to facilitate long-term maintenance.

Gude Landfill – URS is continuing with the design of repairs to correct several poorly drained areas at the landfill.

Beantown Dump – DSWS's contractor completed the final design of the passive gas venting system at the old Beantown Dump site. The County continues to work on executing agreements for the installation of gas extraction wells with property owners. DSWS is preparing a task order for the installation of methane gas detectors in businesses on and near the former footprint of the dump.

Transfer Station- During September, Covanta shipped via rail 46,690 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the RRF, 191 more tons than shipped in September 2000.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

DSWS had a project start-up meeting with the contractor for the design of a roof for the HHW compound.

Additional security cameras were installed and activated at the main Transfer Station building.

Site 2 Landfill Properties – An Historic Area Work Permit application was submitted for review by the County Historic Preservation Commission. A more thorough assessment of the structural condition of the farmhouse was completed. Plans for demolition of one section of the house were being developed. Repair and installation of a new roof was approved. Work should start in October.

Draft documents for the long-term leasing of the Chiswell Farm were approved by FIG and sent to DFS for final review and release.

The Draper property lease continues to be drafted by DFS.

Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan – Staff worked with FIG and SCA to quantify the remaining obligations in the Plan and other documents.

Yard Trim Compost Facility – The Dickerson Yard Trim Facility received 3,058 tons of grass for composting; 5,878 yards of Leafgro were sold in bulk.

Bagging Operation – In September, 19,800 bags of Leafgro were produced at the facility and 28,600 bags were shipped to distributors.

Linden Farm Renovations - Under the signed bagging agreement, the County is to renovate the Feed Barn and Bank Barn. Dean Fitzgerald, the contractor, started the renovation work in June; renovation work is ongoing.

Out-of-County Haul

Brunswick County, Virginia - During the month of September, about 14,654 tons of ash residue and 3,871 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. About 1,198 tons of rubble were recycled at Clean Rock. The RRF was running all three units for most of the month, resulting in high volumes of ash residue to transport. Maintenance on the ash container fleet, including replacement of corroded side panels, continues at the Collier Rail Yard near Petersburg, Virginia.

About 200 containers in the 300-container fleet have had some steel side panels replaced due to corrosion. Prototype, corrosion-resistant containers (one made out of stainless steel and one made out of fiberglass) continue to be evaluated. The fiberglass container that was damaged during tipping is having several features redesigned. The contractor also intends to test new corrosion resistant coatings.

Allied submitted a proposal to the County to provide their own operator at the Transfer Station starting in January 2002 for loading DOT-Type Nonprocessable Waste.

Ash Recycling – The County and the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority are evaluating proposals received in September for a long-term ash recycling contract.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Important Telephone Numbers

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370
Materials Recovery Facility	301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	240-777-6439 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWS	www.MCRecycles.org

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

TOPIC OR FACILITY	
Current Recycling Rate in Montgomery County	36.5%
Recycling Goal	45% by December 2002 50% by December 2004
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY01 tons received- 59,643
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	84,540
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	199,258
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
Mg/l	milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NEA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPS	Office Paper Systems
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
T.R.R.A.C.	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility